REMARKS

In the final Office Action dated May 14, 2008, the Examiner rejected pending claims 7-18 and 20-41. Claims 1-18, 22-25, 28-30, and 34-39 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 as directed to nonstatutory subject matter (note claims 1-6 were previously canceled). Claims 7-10, 12-13, 20-33, and 40 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,018,617 referred to hereafter as Sweitzer in view of U.S. Patent 5,597,312 referred to hereafter as Bloom. Claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Sweitzer in view of Bloom, and further in view of U.S. Patent 5,902,114 referred to hereafter as Erickson. Claims 14-19 and 34-39 (and, apparently, claim 41) were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Swietzer and Bloom, and further in view of U.S. Patent 6,341,959B1 referred to hereafter as Wen (note claim 19 was previously canceled). The present application has been published as U.S. Patent Application Publication 2004/0253569A1, and references to the present application are in terms of this publication for the Examiner's convenience.

Claims 9, 16-18, 27, 32, 34, and 39 are canceled and claims 7-8, 10-11, 14-15, 20-22, 26, 28, 31, 35, and 40-41 are amended in this response.

Rejection of Claims 1-18, 22-25, 28-30, and 34-39 under 35 U.S.C. 101

Claims 1-18, 22-25, 28-30, and 34-39 were rejected as directed to non-statutory matter, e.g. they fail to produce a tangible effect. Applicants note that claims 1-6 were previously canceled, so rejections of those claims are moot. Applicants again traverse this rejection but amend independent claims 7, 10, 22, and 35 in this response to more clearly define the invention and to overcome the rejection. All similarly rejected claims depend

on these amended independent claims. Independent claims 20, 21, 40, and 41 are similarly amended.

Rejection of Claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

The Examiner has rejected claims 7-10, 12-13, 20-33, and 40 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Sweitzer in view of Bloom. Applicants again respectfully traverse these rejections as detailed in the previous office action, but amend all independent claims to more clearly define the invention and overcome the rejection. Support for the amendments can be found in the published patent application in paragraphs [0019], [0020], [0026], [0054], [0056], and [0058], for example. No new matter is added.

Claims 27 and 32 are canceled in this response to advance prosecution. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of the claimed feature of storing the document structure in an XML file, now found in amended dependent claims 26 and 31, as being neither taught nor suggested by the cited prior art. Unlike the Microsoft Word type files of Sweitzer, XML files are widely known to be human-readable. Further, XML files may describe structured or "schematic" content as taught for example in paragraphs [0047]-[0050], [0053], [0058], and Tables 1 and 2 of the published patent application. As stated in paragraph [0053], "The XML document may specify variable definitions including a series of tags for indicating how particular logical expressions map to actual vocabulary."

The Examiner has rejected claim 11 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Sweitzer in view of Bloom, further in view of Erickson. Claim 11 is amended in this response to more precisely define the invention and to overcome the rejection.

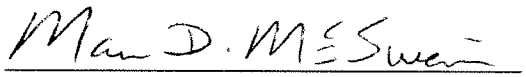
The Examiner has rejected claims 14-19, and 34-39 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Sweitzer in view of Bloom, further in view of Wen. Claim 19 was previously canceled, so rejection of that claim is moot. Claim 14 is amended in this response to more precisely define the invention and to overcome the rejection. Claim 15 is amended for brevity and now includes limitations previously found in claims 16-18, but still depends on amended claim 14, which in turn depends on amended independent claim 10. Claims 16-18, 34, and 39 are canceled in this response to advance prosecution. Claims 36-38 depend on amended claim 35. Applicants invite clarification regarding claim 41, now amended, and whether it was also actually rejected on these grounds, as the office action is slightly vague on this point, which is hopefully now moot.

Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit that the application and the claims are in condition for allowance and request favorable consideration and the timely allowance of all pending claims. By the above amendments, Applicants submit that no new matter has been added to the application. If, for any reason, the application and claims are not in condition for allowance, or any additional information is required, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (650) 331-2048.

Should additional fees be due, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required or credit any overpayment of fees, to Deposit Account No. 05-0426.

Respectfully submitted,



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